

# **New Mexico Department of Game and Fish**

## ***POLICY***

### **Honor Guard**

RM-425  
(Rev.06/19/2014)

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#### **Authority**

§ 17-1-5 NMSA 1978

#### **Purpose**

It is the policy of the Department of Game and Fish to recognize and honor fallen or grievously injured employees of the Department and other public safety agencies. This shall be accomplished by assembling and utilizing a Department Honor Guard.

#### **Policy**

##### **Honor Guard Assembly and Practice**

The Colonel of Field Operations will be responsible for assembling an Honor Guard for the Department. The Colonel will seek volunteers from commissioned field personnel to participate, which will include designating a Captain and Sergeant to oversee the guard. Since this is a voluntary position, a person may be removed from this assignment at any time by the Colonel with concurrence of the Director. All employees that serve on the Honor Guard will be paid regular Department salary and benefits.

The Colonel will allow participants of the Honor Guard to practice at least twice per year with a limit of four trainings per year. The Colonel with concurrence of the Director will determine the appropriate appearance and uniform for this guard. However, no commissioned personnel shall be allowed to have a beard, mustache, or sideburns beyond mid-ear length while participating in the guard. Each member of the guard shall qualify with their honor guard handgun issued by the Department once a year following the Department of Public Safety day and night pistol qualification course criteria. The Colonel may allow honor guard assignments and participation to substitute for training.

##### **Honor Guard Representation**

The Colonel of Field Operations may assign the Honor Guard or a portion of the guard to attend and represent the Department at designated ceremonies and events under the following guidelines:

## **16 Person Honor Guard**

Fallen Department officer/Director while on official duty

## **8 Person Honor Guard**

Fallen Department officer while off duty

Fallen Department non-commissioned employee while on official duty

Fallen retired Department officer

Fallen currently serving State Game Commissioner

Fallen former Department Director/Current Director off duty

Request from another public safety agency

## **2 Person Honor Guard**

Department non-commissioned employee while off duty

Former State Game Commissioner

Hospitalization or critical care of a Department Officer while on official duty

This assignment of personnel is for attendance only inside New Mexico. No authorization is conveyed in this policy to allow for out-of-state attendance. The Colonel with the concurrence of the Director may remove any employee from the Honor Guard due to other assignments, priorities or circumstances. The decision to remove a person is at the discretion of the Colonel and Director. The Director may modify these requirements at any time due to unforeseen circumstances.

This policy was approved and implemented by:



Alexandra Sandoval, Director



Date